New Technology for electronic media

2086. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study is being made by Government to identify the emergence of new technologies applicable to the electronic media; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Identification and search for new technologies relevant and applicable to the electronic media, for improvement of service is a constant endeavour and regularly carried out through studies conducted in the R&D unit of AIR and Doordarshan and participation in the activities of National and International bodies|forums engaged in the study of contemporary technologies.

A Forward Looking Group consisting of 16 experts has also been constituted for advising the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on a 10-year perspective plan, particularly analysing the technological trends and their relevance and application to AIR|Doordarshan as also the short-term requirements of technological developments in the electronic media and examination of hardware and software requirements of AIR|Doordarshan.

Insurance scheme for poor

2087. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has introduced accident insurance scheme for the poor about two years ago; and

(b) whether the scheme has been implemented and if so, the number of beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) and (b) The Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme for poor families was introduced in the country, in the first phase, in 78 districts w.e.f. 15th August, 1985. The Scheme has been extended in stages, to 136 more districts raising the total number of districts covered thereunder so far, to 214.

The number of beneficiaries covered under the Scheme, as on 31st March, 1987 is estimated to be around 97.2 million.

RBI Instructions on SES

2088. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India issued instructions on 25th November, 1986 on Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the circumstances under which non-officials are debarred in the matter of selection of beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have not issued any general instructions to banks by way of circular dated 25th November, 1986.

(c) Selection of beneficiaries under the Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) is done by DIC Task Force, consisting of General Manager and Credit Manager of DIC, representative of SISI, District Employment Exchange Officer and bankers. Thus the team consists of professional experts and non-officials are not associated with the task of selection of beneficiaries. There are, however, elected representatives as members of the District Advisory Committee on DICs which oversees and reviews performance of various schemes including SEEUY.